Mr. John H. Davis
20 E 10 St.,
New York, N.Y. 10003

11/14/87

Dear Mr. Davis,

As I believe I mentioned, my friend Dr. Gerald McKnight teaches an assassinations course not as a whodunit but as government/political science. I've arranged to speak to his class this coming Thursday afternoon to see if any ~~some~~ students, all women, is interested in the searchings. I'll let you know. Hood College is less than 15 minutes away but the student will have to have a car, No public transportation.

Searching for the Commission files in the basement resulted in the problem I anticipated, it was a bit too much. This is why there may be some duplication in the enclosed Comstock/Marcello records. I'm still a bit fuzzyheaded and trying to check without laying them all out, for which I have no space, just didn't work. They also may not be complete with regard to Comstock because I have a separate file of appeals that I thought I'd best not search. I enclose what is not the first Comstock appeal. I also enclose a copy of a carbon of a letter to the late Jack Wasserman, who was the chief counsel in Marcello's immigration cases.

The Commission files I was looking for are the general releases of the early 1970s. I have about two file drawers of them, each CD in a separate file folder. Those I got earlier cannot be retrieved by their CD numbers. I was broke at the time I used the Archives extensively, reluctant to go farthur into debt (as I later ended up doing), had no file cabinets anyway, and I often filed by subject rather than CD numbers. However, just about all of that can be retrieved with the FBI numbers. Only, unfortunately, I gave my copy of the Commission's CD list to Dave Wrone, Professor of History, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, 45581. At the time I planned to deposit all my records there. I'd been asked for them by the Wisconsin Historical Society, made a handshake deal with the then chancellor, Lee Dreyfus (later governor), and gave them a fair amount of stuff and arranged for others to do the same. Then, when my health deteriorated and I realized that I had nothing in writing from them to assure me that there would be no burden on my wife, I still could get nothing in writing on this. So, I switched the deposit to local Hood and they are including space for it all in the new library they hope to have operating about 1990. If the CD list gives the FBI numbers we can get all records originating with the FBI that way. I'm sure Dave can make a xerox for you and it may be that the AARC has a copy. Jim can tell you.

I do have a copy of CD 1347, from the FBI, and I enclose the page you want, 244. I tried an experiment with it that I'll abandon. In the future we'll remove the ACCO clips and copy flat. I wanted to see if saving that time could be satisfactory. I could make another copy and include the page number, all that is missing but when I saw how it comes out I didn't and if you want a flat copy please let me know.

Early on I decided that I had less prospect of doing anything worthwhile about Ruby and I also decided that there was virtually no possibility of mob involvement in the assassination so I have fewest subject-filing records about these matters. Hoch once had quite an interest in Civello and may have what you want. Again, what I have can be retriebd by use of the Dallas index.

In skimming the records enclosed I noticed reference to Morris Brownlee. As I told you, what Sheridan says bears little relationship to the reality. I taped, in the open - no clandestine taping -much of what we discussed, particularly with John George Wyatt. They were, pretty clearly, working with or for Sheridan and the State committee, from what they were quite open about. So you can make a better appraisal of sources such as Sheridan, I tell you that he never spoke to me before writing his book but he did sic a guy whose name escapse me on me. Reporter for

WDSU -TV who, after the Sheridan special was aired, moved to New York. This guy said he wanted to talk to me, withput once mentioning Sheridan, we picked a night, he said lets have supper, I agreed, we met and then the stalls began. First with a long wait at the Roosevelt Hotel for his girl friend (we'd just left his wife) to join us. She was into horses, which delayed her. She was Judge Wisdom's daughter. After several hours he took us to the same restaurant in which he knew Sheridan was just then dining. He introduced us, we moved to our own table, and that is the total extent of my contact with Sheridan or his with me. Except for his failure to respond to my letter after I read his "offa book. All I could later think of with this Townlea*business,/ *Richard that was the reporter's name, is that if he ever wanted to twist what I'd said he could use Sheridan to confirm that we had been together.

If the enclosed records are not explicit in laying out that Comstock did do what the FBI called a black bag job on Ferrie, then the appeals records will have the FBI's record reflecting this. It was at the time of the assassination, as I now recall, or at the time Garrison's operation was known, probably the latter.

Wasserman told me that Gill asked for his permission to hire Ferrie as an investigator and that he agreed. Wasserman did not hire Ferrie.

You've never mentioned having any of the available FBI information on its filing. So, when I saw the MM (Miami) 89-35 slug on page 244 I thought of my outdated copy of the FBI's file classifications and that made me think of its source, an FBI publication, Central Records System. And then, this being an FBI rather than a Commission copy, I thought you might want to know the meaning of the marks added by the FBI, which I also got with it. Also enclosed. I'm sure that the FBI had added new file classifications and that Jim can give you a copy. They don't reassign these numbers so what I enclose you can use safely until you get the newest list. I also enclose a list of the field offices with their symbols, perhaps since expanded. (My wife copied by accident what was attached here, the cover of the other Dallas index, communications. However, it can serve to remind you that Dallas kept a separate record of assassination communications for about a year and a half.)

Instead of bothering you each time we make some copies my wife will keep a record and we can get into that latter.

The Ruby subject files are extensive enough to postpone that search for a student. I also have the FBI's assassination Ruby files, HQ, Dallas and New Orleans.

If you want a copy of the FBI's book on its filing you can get a printed and bound one from it or I can copy my copy or maybe I gave Jim a copy and he can copy easier than we. I may have annotated ours for use in court.

If you phone my schedule does not vary very often. I leave home early in the morning for 3-4 hours of walking an resting, the prescribed therapy, at a nearby mall and I leave for home when it opens at 10 most mornings. Sometimes I linger and chat with friends but I'm almost always home by 10:30. The few exceptions are for medical appointments and taking my wife shopping. I'm generally home the rest of the day. In the near future I'll probably be looking for a replacement for our car, which will be 23 in two months. I should replace it before cold weather. Once the time reverts we'll not likely be out for supper because with cataracts I avoid night driving.

Sincerely,

Harold

Harold Weisberg